

3. (Currently Amended) A foldable clothes hanger according to Claim 1 ~~or Claim 2~~, characterised in that the catch means (5,4) are provided on an elongate arcuate strip (3) constituting the resilient means (3), and in that the release means (6,28) is operable to deflect the strip (3) such that the catch means (5,4) thereof moves out of engagement of the latch means (13,18) of the two arms (17,22) substantially simultaneously.

4. (Original) A foldable clothes hanger according to Claim 3, characterised in that the release means (6,28) comprises a resiliently depressible pushbutton (28) engageable with a nodule (6) on the strip (3), depression of pushbutton (28) onto nodule (6) causing the strip (3) to deflect and effect disengagement of catch means (5,4) with latch means (13,18) of the two arms (17,22).

5. (Currently Amended) A foldable clothes hanger according to Claim 1 ~~any preceding claim~~, wherein the arms (17,22) protrude from a housing (1,26) that encloses the toothed arcuate racks (14,19) and that also encloses the latch means (13,18) of the two arms and the catch means (13,18) engageable therewith, a hook (2) for the hanger being fast with, e.g. provided integrally with, the housing (1,26) and extending upwardly and outwardly

therefrom.

6. (Original) A foldable clothes hanger according to Claim 5, characterised in that the housing (1,26) comprises a main part (1) moulded of plastics material with axle pins (8,9) to provide said common axis (8) and adjacent parallel axis (9), and further comprises a closure plate (26) snap-fit engageable with the main part (1) by engagement means (7,32 ; 10-12,29, 30).

7. (Original) A foldable clothes hanger according to Claim 6, characterised in that the closure plate 26 is moulded of plastics material with catches (33,34) to engage the free ends of the axle pins (8,9) and retain thereon the arms (17,22) and the pinions (23,24).

Claims 8 and 9 (Cancelled).

10. (Currently Amended) A foldable clothes hanger according to Claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding Claims~~, characterised in that one of the latch means (13,18) and the catch means (5,4) is formed as a series of ratchet teeth and the other is formed as at least one projection to engage with said ratchet teeth.

11. (Currently Amended) A foldable clothes hanger according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 10, characterised in that the part of one arm (22) provided with a toothed arcuate rack (19) is an arcuately extending limb that is concentric with and slidable over another arcuately extending limb projecting from the other arm (17).

12. (New) A foldable clothes hanger according to Claim 2, wherein the arms (17,22) protrude from a housing (1,26) that encloses the toothed arcuate racks (14,19) and that also encloses the latch means (13,18) of the two arms and the catch means (13,18) engageable therewith, a hook (2) for the hanger being fast with, e. g. provided integrally with, the housing (1,26) and extending upwardly and outwardly therefrom.

13. (New) A foldable clothes hanger according to Claim 3, wherein the arms (17,22) protrude from a housing (1,26) that encloses the toothed arcuate racks (14,19) and that also encloses the latch means (13,18) of the two arms and the catch means (13,18) engageable therewith, a hook (2) for the hanger being fast with, e. g. provided integrally with, the housing (1,26) and extending upwardly and outwardly therefrom.

14. (New) A foldable clothes hanger according to Claim 4, wherein the arms (17,22) protrude from a housing (1,26) that encloses the toothed arcuate racks (14,19) and that also encloses the latch means (13,18) of the two arms and the catch means (13,18) engageable therewith, a hook (2) for the hanger being fast with, e. g. provided integrally with, the housing (1,26) and extending upwardly and outwardly therefrom.

15. (New) A foldable clothes hanger according to Claim 3, characterised in that the housing (1,26) comprises a main part (1) moulded of plastics material with axle pins (8,9) to provide said common axis (8) and adjacent parallel axis (9), and further comprises a closure plate (26) snap-fit engageable with the main part (1) by engagement means (7,32 ; 10-12,29, 30).

16. (New) A foldable clothes hanger according to Claim 4, characterised in that the housing (1,26) comprises a main part (1) moulded of plastics material with axle pins (8,9) to provide said common axis (8) and adjacent parallel axis (9), and further comprises a closure plate (26) snap-fit engageable with the main part (1) by engagement means (7,32 ; 10-12,29, 30).

17. (New) A foldable clothes hanger according to Claim 15, characterised in that the elongate arcuate strip (3) is moulded

integrally with the main part (1) of the housing (1,26).

18. (New) A foldable clothes hanger according to Claim 3, characterised in that one of the latch means (13,18) and the catch means (5,4) is formed as a series of ratchet teeth and the other is formed as at least one projection to engage with said ratchet teeth.

19. (New) A foldable clothes hanger according to Claim 5, characterised in that one of the latch means (13,18) and the catch means (5,4) is formed as a series of ratchet teeth and the other is formed as at least one projection to engage with said ratchet teeth.

20. (New) A foldable clothes hanger according to Claim 1, characterised in that the part of one arm (22) provided with a toothed arcuate rack (19) is an arcuately extending limb that is concentric with and slidable over another arcuately extending limb projecting from the other arm (17).